

A communication was presented from Dr. R. W. Gibbes, of Columbia, South Carolina, entitled "Monograph of the Fossil Squalidæ of the United States, continued," which was referred to the Committee on the former portion of the memoir.

Mr. Cassin read a paper describing a new Tanager from the Rio Negro, (*Tanagra nigro-aurita*,) which was referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. Wilson, Gambel and Bridges.

On leave granted, the Committee to whom was referred Mr. Henry C. Lea's catalogue of Tertiary Fossils of the U. S., reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

October 10th, 1848.

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

A communication was read from Prof. Walter R. Johnson, Secretary of the American Association for the advancement of Science, dated Philadelphia, September 25th, 1848, returning the acknowledgements of that body for "the liberal and handsome manner in which the numerous and splendid collections of the Academy were offered for the inspection of the members."

A letter was read from Francis S. Holmes, Esq., of Charleston, S. C., dated October 2d, 1848, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent.

Also a letter from Mr. George B. Allinson, dated October 3d, 1848, accompanying his donation of minerals, this evening announced.

October 17th, 1848.

Mr. VAUX in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From the Secretary of the Lyceum of Natural History of New York, dated October 10th, 1848, acknowledging the receipt of Nos. 1 and 2, New Series of Journal of the Academy:—

From Dr. Bennet Dowler, dated New Orleans, October 3d, 1848, and from Dr. R. M. S. Jackson, dated Blairsville, Pennsylvania, October 7th, 1848, severally acknowledging the receipt of their notices of election as Correspondents:—

From John A. Guex, dated New York, October 15, 1848, announcing that he had forwarded for this Society recent Nos. of the Annals of the Royal Agricultural Society of Lyons.

October 24th, 1848.

Dr. BRIDGES in the Chair.

A letter was read from Mr. B. M. Norman, of New Orleans, dated October 6th, 1848, announcing the late decease of Dr. William M.

Carpenter of that city, a correspondent of this Institution, and stating that at the request of the latter, he had transmitted for the cabinet of the Academy, the specimens of Tapir fossils, described and figured by Dr. Carpenter in Silliman's Journal, New Series, No. 2.

A letter was read from Prof. Walter R. Johnson, addressed to Dr. Morton, dated Washington, October 18, 1848, recommending to the Academy to memorialize Congress on the advantage and importance of an examination into the Natural History of the Southern portion of Chili, and of adding one or more naturalists to the astronomical expedition now fitting out by the U. S. Government for that region, under the command of Lieut. J. M. Gilliss U. S. N. Referred to a Committee consisting of Dr. Morton, Dr. Bridges and Mr. Vaux.

Mr. Cassin read a communication from Mr. Wm. S. Pease, intended for publication, describing the geological features of the district of country lying between Puebla and the Gulf of Mexico, with some remarks on its Natural History. Referred to Mr. Cassin, Dr. Townsend, and Mr. Vaux.

Mr. Cassin also presented a Catalogue of Birds, collected by Mr. Wm. S. Pease, during the march of the Army of the United States from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico. Referred to Drs. Townsend, Gambel and Woodhouse.

October 31st, 1848.

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

The Committee on Mr. Cassin's description of a new Tanager, reported in favor of publication.

Description of a new Tanagra, in the Collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

BY JOHN CASSIN.

TANAGRA nigro-aurita, nobis.

Superior and point of the inferior mandible, black,—other portions of the inferior mandible, yellow.

Head above, chin and throat, ending in a point on the breast, crimson.

A broad stripe from the base of the bill, including the eye and ear, glossy black. This stripe completely separates the crimson of the upper part of the head from that of the throat.

Entire upper surface of the body, except the head, black, which is also the color of the wings and tail. Under parts of the body from the breast, white.

Legs, in the dried skin, nearly black.

Total length of skin, from tip of bill to end of tail, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches; wing 3 1-10th; tail 2 8-10th inches.

Hab. Rio Negro, South America.

This species very much resembles both *Tanagra gularis*, Linn., and *capitata*,